



AMAA NEWS

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URGENT APPEAL
See Back Cover



For The Lord

Andrew Torigian

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." (Colossians 3:23-24)

This last month required me to do a lot of traveling and visitation to our Armenian Evangelical Churches. My itinerary took me from Cyprus to Greece, to Armenia, to Los Angeles, to Chicago, and to Montreal, Canada.

It was extremely heartening to see the vibrancy of our churches. The pastoral leadership in each of the churches I visited was extraordinary. The pastors and many of their wives are totally immersed in the well-being of their parishioners and the spiritual revival of their respective parishes. It was very heart-warming to see that our evangelical enthusiasm is still flourishing.

Thanks also to the various committees that are the mainstay of the churches. The work of the committees enhances the entire congregation. I refer primarily to the various Missions Committees, the various Ladies Auxiliaries (who help out in so many original ways), the Bible Study Groups who pursue the truth in the Bible, and others who steadily do their jobs.

They are a great example to all of us as to the great commission given to us by Christ and recorded in Scripture – To make disciples of all the world. They exemplify this in their lives. Trips like this help me to realize the importance of the work for Christ. It brings it to the forefront. In our everyday lives, we tend to push it to the background. It is important to realize and commit to the fact that we are evangelists and as such we need to follow the Gospel and proclaim the good news to all we come in contact with. Remember, Jesus is too precious for us to keep to ourselves.

It is a joy to know that the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has been able to assist these churches by continuing to provide support. It is a blessing for us to be a part of such ministries with eternal significance. □

AMAA NEWS

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COVER PICTURE

The Collapsed bridge to Sheen Shoghig Camp
Hankavan, Armenia

Save The Date

**Armenian Missionary Association of America
88th Annual Meeting
and Related Activities
October 11-14, 2007**

**Armenian Congregational Church of Chicago
905 West Golf Road
Mount Prosepect, IL**

Details will follow in the next issue of the AMAA NEWS

Armenian Evangelical Churches Observe AMAA Sunday

Salem, NH – The Ararat Armenian Evangelical Church of Salem, NH observed AMAA Sunday on April 15, 2007. AMAA Field Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian visited the church, participated in the worship service and gave an update during the missions lunch at 1:00 p.m. A video on AMAA programs in Armenia was shown. Board Member Mrs. Elaine Kasparian, who also chairs the AMAA Development Committee, gave a brief report on the capital campaign which has been initiated by the AMAA Board. The campaign will support major capital projects in Armenia including two AMAA centers in Yerevan and Gyumri, the renovation of AMAA's Hankavan Camp and the expansion of the Armenian Evangelical Khoren and Shoushanig Avedisian School. The campaign will also support education and youth ministries at home and in the Middle East.

Detroit, MI – The Armenian Congregational Church of Detroit observed AMAA Sunday on April 29, 2007. Both during the worship service and the missions luncheon which followed, Mr. Youmshakian spoke about the necessity of sharing resources with those less fortunate. Following the Apostle Paul's appeal to the Corinthians (2 Corinthians, Chapter 8), Mr. Youmshakian used the example of the Macedonians who first gave themselves to the Lord and thus came forward to help their brothers and sisters in Jerusalem. During the missions luncheon, an appeal was made to sponsor needy Armenian children in Armenia and the Middle East. The congregation responded promptly and generously.

Las Vegas, NV – The Armenian Evangelical Church of Las Vegas is a young congregation. The church was established as a missions outreach by the Armenian Evangelical Church of Hollywood and the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America. The congregation meets on Sunday afternoons for worship at the Lutheran Church. AMAA helps support the church financially. AMAA Sunday was observed on May 6, 2007 with the AMAA Field Director preaching at the church. Following the sermon, an update was given on AMAA programs around the world.

Washington, D.C. – On Sunday, June 3, 2007 the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Washington D.C. met at Saint Mary's Arme-



Youth Group members of Salem Church signing up for Child Sponsorship Program.



AMAA Board member Elaine Kasparian addressing the guests of the AMAA Sunday Luncheon at Salem Church.

nian Apostolic Church. The service was dedicated to the AMAA. Over 25 people were present where together they praised God, listened to His Word and shared news on AMAA projects around the world. After the sermon, Mr. Youmshakian shared with the group a new video "Children, the Gift of God" that was just released by the AMAA. The members of the Fellowship responded favorably to the appeal of the AMAA and gave generously for mission work in Armenia and Lebanon.

The Armenian Missionary Association of America appreciates the support of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in North America. Together we make a positive impact on the lives of those who are less fortunate and together we bring the Gospel to our communities.



The Detroit Church Choir.



AMAA Sunday Luncheon at Detroit Church.

Chicago Church Dedicates New Building

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Greater Chicago celebrated the dedication of their new church edifice on May 19, 2007. Close to 300 members and well-wishers attended the dedication service. The church has served the Armenian community of the Chicago area since its humble beginnings as a monthly prayer group in Chicago in 1901. By 1916, the church was officially formed with 42 charter members. The dedication culminates a 5½-year journey that began with the sale of the original church edifice located at 5230 North Sheridan Road, which served the church since 1945. The church is now located at 905 West Golf Road, Mount Prospect, Illinois. The new 5,000 square foot facility houses a sanctuary, offices, a full kitchen, and a social hall with space for Sunday school and youth activities.

The Pastor of the church, Rev. Samuel Agulian, was the officiating clergy. The Mayor of Mount Prospect, the Honorable Irvana K. Wilks, congratulated the church for a beautiful building, which will add to

the fabric of the village. Dr. Gilbert Bilezikian gave the dedicatory sermon. He emphasized the vocation of the church is to reach out to the community and touch their lives through the message of Jesus Christ. Rev. Joseph Matossian, Minister to the Union for the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) and Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Executive Director of the Armenian Evangelical World Council (AEWC) conducted the AEUNA's litany for dedication. Archpriest Father Zareh Sahakian from All Saints' Armenian Apostolic Church of Glenview, Illinois then concluded the service with congratulatory remarks and benediction.

The celebratory weekend continued at the Sunday morning worship service. Rev. Joseph Matossian gave the Armenian message entitled, "The Importance of Cooperation." Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian gave the English sermon entitled, "Dedication to Christian Worship and Work."

The celebration concluded when close to 300 friends and members attended a gala banquet at the Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village, Illinois on Sunday afternoon. During the reception, a slide presentation was given featuring the church's history. The main speaker was Mr. Andrew Torigain, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). Mr. Torigain briefly reviewed the history of the church, the AEUNA, and the AMAA. Through the AMAA, the congregations of AEUNA churches are reaching the un-churched in Armenia and God is blessing the work done in His name. He congratulated the congregation and challenged everyone to uphold its mission and support it.

A number of appropriate acknowledgements then fol-



Andy Torigian, AMAA Executive Director addressing the guests at the banquet (above). The joint Board of the Chicago Church.

lowed. The Armenian General Benevolent Union (AGBU) was recognized for allowing the church use of its cultural center for services during construction. Mr. David Hagopian, Moderator of the church, presented a plaque of gratitude to Mr. Frederick Simonian, Chairman of the Board of Trustees and project manager for the construction of the church.

Gifts and/or congratulatory salutations were provided by the AEUNA, All Saints' Armenian Apostolic Church, the Knights of Vartan, the project architect, Saint James Armenian Apostolic Church, Saint Hagop Armenian Apostolic Church, and the Prelacy of the Armenian Apostolic Church of America.

A flame symbolizing the "Light of St. Gregory the Illuminator" from Khor Virab, the pit in which St. Gregory the Illuminator miraculously survived for 13 years, was used to light dozens of lanterns. Saint Gregory Church (Chicago, Illinois) council member Mr. Gregory Tootoian presented such a lantern to the church.

The new facility will be used to host the summer conference of the Armenian Evangelical Youth Fellowship in July, followed by the annual meeting of the AMAA and AEUNA in October. □



The Congregation of the Chicago Church during and after the dedication service of the newly constructed church building.

The Armenian Evangelical Churches in Belgium

Belgium with over 11 million in population is one of the multicultural countries of Europe. Even though the dominant religion of the country is Catholicism, there is also an evangelical testimony in the country. In the past, there were only a few Armenians living in Belgium. However, with the influx of Armenians from Turkey and from Armenia within the past 20 years, the population of Armenians in Belgium is estimated to be more than 30,000, the majority being from Armenia.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Brussels was founded in 1991 by the support and encouragement of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches of France. The late Rev. Movses Janbazian, the Executive Director of the AMAA at that time, with his vision of having an Armenian Evangelical presence in Belgium, had a major role in the founding of this church. Rev. Sarkis Pachaian, who has been the minister of the church since its founding, is originally from Turkey and a member of the Armenian

Evangelical Church of Istanbul. He came and settled in Belgium in 1983. Encouraged by Rev. Janbazian and with the assistance of the AMAA, he studied at the Bible College of Belgium from 1989-1991. After his graduation, he was installed as the pastor of the church and in 2001 was officially ordained into Christian Ministry.

When the church was founded, it had only 20 members who had come from Turkey. As the work progressed and more Armenians arrived from Turkey and later from Armenia, not only the membership of the church grew, but other Armenian Evangelical churches and fellowships were established in different towns and cities – Antwerp, Hasselt, Laeken, Liege and Mechelen. Currently, the total number of Armenian Evangelical churches and Fellowships in Belgium is seven. Each church and fellowship has its own council and lay preacher to assist Rev. Pachaian. One of the preachers has completed his two years of studies at the Evangelical Theological Academy of Yerevan, Armenia. Another candidate for Christian Ministry is attending the Bible School in Belgium. Recently, a National Council was formed to better oversee and manage the churches in Belgium.

Besides Sunday Worship Services, there are various activities and meetings that take place within the churches, such as Youth and Young Adults Groups, Sunday School, prayer meetings and Bible Studies. Each year, two summer camps are organized – one for Armenian-speaking people and the second for Turkish-speaking Armenians. About 100 people participate in each camp. The camps are specially designed for the



Preacher Yura Alexanian leading the worship service at the Laeken Church (above). Raphael Avedian leading the worship service at Antwerp Church.

youth. All the activities of the churches in Belgium are held in rented facilities.

The Armenian Evangelical Churches of Belgium have widened their ministry and reach out to Armenians outside of Belgium – Holland and Germany – where there are many Armenian immigrants. Regular worship services are held in these countries organized by the Armenian Evangelical Churches of Belgium. The Armenian Evangelical Churches of Belgium desire to be a center to reach out to more Armenians who have recently moved to Europe. However, to develop its ministry more efficiently and have a more visible and effective presence, the church is working hard to obtain its own church building and Evangelical/Cultural Center for Armenians living in the heart of Europe. □



The Sunday School (above) and the Youth Group.



Rev. Sarkis Pachaian with his wife Nicole and their two daughters.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium Baptizes 25 Young Adults

The Sunday, April 29 morning worship service of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium was a special one. That morning 25 young adults, men and women, were baptized and dedicated their lives to the Lord. This baptismal service was a record in the history of the Church. The previous record was 13 people who were baptized two years ago.

The rented sanctuary of the Adventists Church, where the Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium holds its worship services, was filled to capacity. The worship service and the baptism were led by Rev. Sarkis Pachaian, the pastor of the church and Rev. Gilbert Leonian, pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Beaumont in Marseille, France who is also the President of the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Europe. Rev. Pachaian welcomed the parishioners in Turkish and Rev. Gilbert Leonian astonished those who were present by translating Rev. Pachaian's words from Turkish into Armenian for the first time. After Rev. Leonian's message, all those who were being baptized one by one confessed their faith in Jesus Christ. From time to time applause and songs of



praise filled the sanctuary. The worship service ended with a photo of remembrance and a special reception in honor of those who were baptized. Indeed, it was a historic and unforgettable day for the Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium. □

Spiritual Corner

COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS

Dikran Youmshakian

**"Count your blessings, name them one by one
Count your blessings; see what God hath done..."**
(Rev Johnson Oatman)

The question is *how* we count our blessings, especially when we recognize the immensity of things that God has done for us. Is it possible to count the sand on the shore or the stars in heaven? How then could we count our blessings?

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the Ephesians writes "God has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as He chose us in Christ" (Ephesians 1:3). Paul confirms that there are countless blessings which not only are physical but also spiritual, and these are gifts from God.

It is easy perhaps to count our physical blessings – things like money, investments, cars, etc. To count these we can always use numbers and calculators. How about the spiritual blessings - things that we cannot see or touch? To count these we will need the Holy Spirit. When we recognize that God has chosen us in Christ, then Jesus becomes part of our lives and the Holy Spirit does the counting.

The Holy Spirit delivers us from our self-centered nature and transforms us into the likeness of Christ. We realize that sharing our blessings becomes the proper means of accounting. As we share our blessings, everything around us and in us becomes a blessing, not only physical possessions but also things that we never counted before. Not only our good health, but even our illness; not only our happy moments, but also the days when we are down; not only our gains, but also our losses. Rich or poor we will feel blessed. With the Holy Spirit working, our lives will remain changed and we will realize how much God has done for us. □

New Co-Chair For West Coast Orphan and Child Care Committee

Arsine Phillips

Joyce Stein, esteemed advisor and National Co-Chair of the Orphan and Child Care Committee, recently announced the appointment of Lori Muncherian as the new co-chair of the West Coast Orphan and Child Care Committee. She will join Arsine Phillips, the other co-chair of the committee. Lori will be taking over the position which was held by Linda Kay Abdulian. In a special tribute at the March 31 Orphan and Child Care fashion show and luncheon, Linda Kay Abdulian was recognized and thanked for her ten years of faithful service as she leaves Los Angeles.

Lori Muncherian has served on the committee for many years and last year she was the Co-Chair of the luncheon and fashion show. The event which was held on March 31, 2007 raised a total of almost \$200,000.00! Lori worked diligently and

faithfully to make the annual luncheon a huge success.

Plans are already underway for next year's fashion show and luncheon which will be held on April 26 at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Next year's event will be chaired by Grace Kurkjian, Gina Felikian and Nora Tavlian. The Committee is looking forward to another successful year to help raise money for the orphans and needy children in Armenia. Many children in Armenia lack the basic necessities of normal life – food, clothing and shelter. "We are trying to help change a child's life and give hope for a better future, one child at a time," explained Joyce Stein, who has led this committee



Argine Jean Kelegian and Lori Muncherian, the co-chairs of March 31 Luncheon and Children's Fashion Show Event.

for many years and insured its success by her commitment and hard work to help the children of Armenia. □

Elizabeth and Garabed Haitayan Celebrate Their 50th Wedding Anniversary

On Friday, May 11, 2007 over 160 family members, relatives and friends gathered at Café Santorini's Rococo Banquet Hall to honor Elizabeth and Garabed Haitayan of Pasadena, CA, on the happy occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. (Café Santorini is owned and operated by the Haitayan family.



The event was organized by their children Maro, Panos, Vasken and the grandchildren who gave their testimonies. A 15 minute video on the life of the Haitayan couple was presented.

Mr. and Mrs. Haitayan are active members of the AMAA and they love the Lord. Their wish was not to receive any gifts on this occasion, instead as an expression of their love of the Lord and concern for others in need, they asked gifts to be made to the AMAA. Over \$3,000 in cash contributions were made designated to the AMAA Orphan Child Care Programs in Armenia. We congratulate the Haitayan family and thank them for their loving gesture. May God bless them with many more joyful and healthy years together.



We thought it would be a good idea to begin introducing you to the staff at AMAA who support the programs and various ministries. This is the first in the series and we want to begin by introducing you to Mr. Tigran Melkonyan, AMAA's Child Sponsorship/Scholarship Program Supervisor, based in the headquarters in New Jersey, USA. Mr. Melkonyan oversees the entire sponsorship and scholarship program. This program is supported by a very lean staff with only necessary resources to keep the administrative costs low. In spite of this, under his capable direction, the program is well-supported and well-controlled, impacting over 4,000 children.



Born and raised in Armenia, Mr. Melkonyan graduated from International Relations Department of Yerevan State University. Desiring to acquire a western-style education, he won a scholarship to attend the Masters Program at the Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.

Mr. Melkonyan has been employed at AMAA for seven years. Currently, while working at AMAA, he is enrolled in the Master of Business Administration classes at Fordham University in New York City.

Christmas Compassion Drive

Nancy Taraktzian

The Armenian Euphrates Evangelical Church's Missions Committee in Providence, RI worked tirelessly throughout the summer and winter months to oversee an amazing project come to a reality.

Two members and Deacons of the church, Mr. Robert Messerlian and Mr. Carlos Taraktzian, are both Board Members of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). During the Annual Meeting of AMAA in October 2006, which took place in Paramus NJ, both Bob and Carlos met a remarkable saintly woman. Her name is Sister Hanna Christen, a German Missionary, who serves as a nurse and social worker in Armenia. As they conversed with Sister Hanna, her Christian love and devotion as a missionary to the AMAA was unmistakable. Her years of service to the nursing home in Yerevan, and her current service in Bert (near Dilijan, North Armenia) continue to be the most important thing in her life. Helping the lonely, the sick, and the desperate was, and still is, how she serves the Lord. She spoke of the elderly and



Sister Hanna caring for an elderly lady in a Nursing Home in Yerevan, Armenia.

how difficult it was to care for them without enough of the bare essentials such as towels, bandages, sheets, adult diapers, soap, and the lists goes on and on.

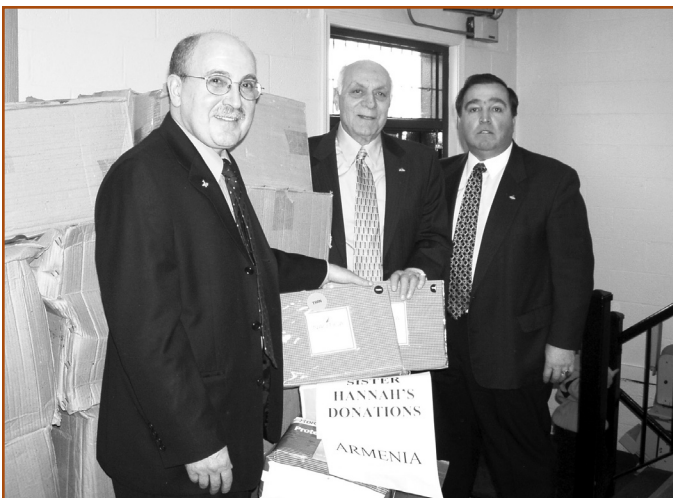
It was at that time that Bob and Carlos promised Sister Hanna that the Euphrates Church would rally together and begin what was eventually called a "Christmas Compassion Drive". As soon as they returned to Rhode Island, they shared their emotional meeting with Sister Hanna to the church congregation, and the Missions Committee began what would be eight months of collecting donations of sheets, towels, blankets, adult diapers, and bandages. They had no idea what an enormous outpouring of love and giving they were to witness. This missions outreach extended far beyond the church family. They received donations from the Armenian communi-

ty, from churches, from businesses, and even from people that they did not even know. Christmas passed and the donations were still coming in.

On March 9, 2007, they eagerly loaded a truck with 116 boxes of various items – all brand new – with a retail value of over \$18,000. Both Carlos and Bob drove the truck to New Jersey to the AMAA headquarters and dropped off the "promise" for Sister Hanna. From there, the items were shipped to Armenia and earmarked for the elderly through Sister Hanna.

The feeling of gratification could not be explained, but could certainly be seen on the faces of the members of the Missions Committee and especially Bob and Carlos. After all, it was only eight months earlier that they had that precious conversation with a woman who continues to glorify the Lord every day with her everlasting love and support to so many lonely and elderly people in Armenia.

Those who are interested to learn more about Sister Hannah's service in Armenia or would like to support the needy elderly in Armenia can contact the AMAA office at 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652. □



AMAA Board members Robert Messerlian and Carlos Taraktzian of the Armenian Evang'l Euphrates Church of Providence, RI, presenting the collected donations for Sister Hanna to AMAA Field Director Dikran Youmshakian.

AMAA At The Armenia Day Festival of Alexandria, VA

Alexandria - Gyumri Sister City Committee and the Alexandria VA Department of Recreation and Cultural Activities have been organizing a festival each year to support Armenians in Gyumri. The fifteenth annual Armenia Day Festival this year was held on Saturday, June 2, 2007 at the Market Square on King Street. There was delicious Armenian food, live entertainment, arts and crafts and displays from various Armenian cultural and charitable organizations.

AMAA participated with a display of books, brochures, pamphlets and posters describing the Child Care programs in Armenia including the Child Sponsorship and the Milk Programs. The story of Anoushik, the miracle child, was displayed which caught much attention. Anoushik, a child sponsored through AMAA, miraculously survived a deadly leukemia, thanks to the support of her sponsor.

The Alexandria-Gyumri Sister City Committee sponsors five needy children in Gyumri through AMAA. Funding for this sponsorship comes from the sale of food. Those who are interested to learn more about the committee or the festi-



val can visit the website www.alexandria-Gyumri.org or contact the AMAA headquarters.

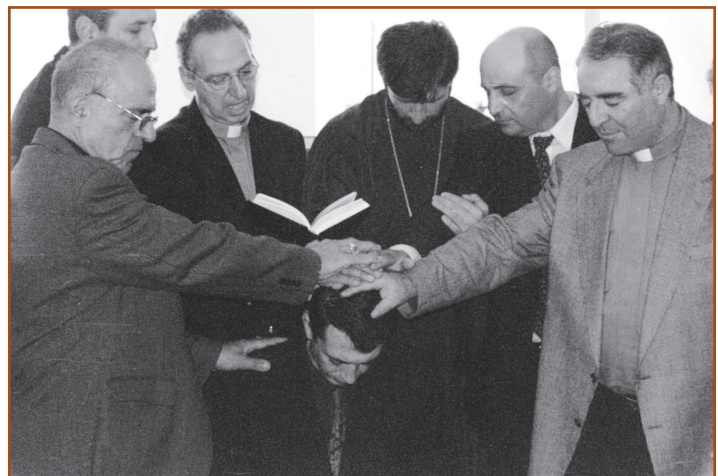
Ordination Service in Tbilisi, Georgia

The Ordination Service of Garen Khachadrian, pastor of the Evangelical Church of Armenia in Tbilisi, Georgia was held on October 8, 2006 in Tbilisi.

Garen Khachadrian was born in Tbilisi in 1964. He has attended local schools for his primary education. Garen accepted Jesus Christ as his Savior and was baptized in 1994. Soon after, he began to serve in the Evangelical Church of Armenia of Tbilisi in various capacities.

For many years he served in the AMAA Camps both in Armenia and Georgia as a spiritual leader. From 1999-2003, Garen attended the Evangelical Theological Academy of Armenia and upon graduation received his Theological Degree. Soon after his graduation, he returned to Tbilisi to serve as the pastor of the Church.

Revs. Rene Leonian, AMAA Representative of Armenia, Hamlet Gureghian, pastor of the Evangelical Church of Armenia in Yerevan, Samvel Kirakosian, pastor of the Evangelical Church of Armenia in Vanadzor, Valeri Zakarian, pastor of Evangelical Church of Armenia in Akhalkalak, Georgia and Vigen Galustian of Elk Grove, CA, participated in the ordination service, as well as Rev. Merap Kaprintashvili, the President of the Union of Baptist Evangelical Churches of Georgia. Greetings were



brought by all clergy attending the service. Songs of praise, Scripture readings and prayers were offered and led by participating clergy. The ordination message was delivered by Rev. Vigen Galustian.

Prior to the Ordination ceremony, Revs. Leonian and Kaprintashvili led the Question & Answer Period according to the By Laws.

Haigazian University Board of Trustees Meets in Larnaca, Cyprus



Standing in the rear, left to right: Rev. Megrdoch Karagoezian, UAECNE President; Albert Momjian, Esq.; Andy Torigian, AMAA Executive Director; John Sagherian; Joe Zeronian, Ed. D.; Rev. Robert Sarkissian, Vice Chairman; Haroutune Nicolian, M.D.; Ropovt Chorbajian, M.D. Front row: Herair Mouradian, Chairman; H. Steven Aharonian, M.D., AMAA President; Rev. Carnegie Calian, Ph. D.; Joyce Stein, Stephen Philibosian Foundation; Seta Karagoezian, Secretary; Professor Barkev Kassarian, Ph. D.; Ani Boujikian; Ani Darakjian; M.D. and Rev. Paul Haidostian, Ph. D., President, Haigazian University.

In May, the Haigazian University Board of Trustees had their semi-annual meeting in Larnaca, Cyprus. Haigazian University is the only Armenian university in the Diaspora. It is undertaking a major renovation of the Beirut campus and will be renovating the Heritage Building in October, 2007. Renovation work on the Philibosian and the Mugar Buildings will follow in the coming few years. The new Heritage Building will move Haigazian University in the direction of the technological and professional age. Haigazian University is still evenly balanced with their students by maintaining its ethnic distribution of having 51% Armenian students and 49% non-Armenians. This should continue in the coming year. The ongoing tension in Lebanon is putting an additional burden on Haigazian University. Haigazian University is taking steps to cope with the overall situation. This year, there were 34 Haigazian University graduates in February, 2007.

AMAA Board Members Visit Armenian Evangelical Churches of Kokkinia & Derghouty, Greece

Led by AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian and AMAA President, Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, a group of AMAA Board Members visited the Armenian Evangelical Churches of Kokkinia and Derghouty in Greece. The Armenian refugees settled in Kokkinia, Greece, after the tragedies in Cilicia and Izmir (1921-1922). The Armenian Evangelicals among them, began prayer meetings in tents and makeshift homes. In 1922, an old factory was secured for the purpose of holding worship services.

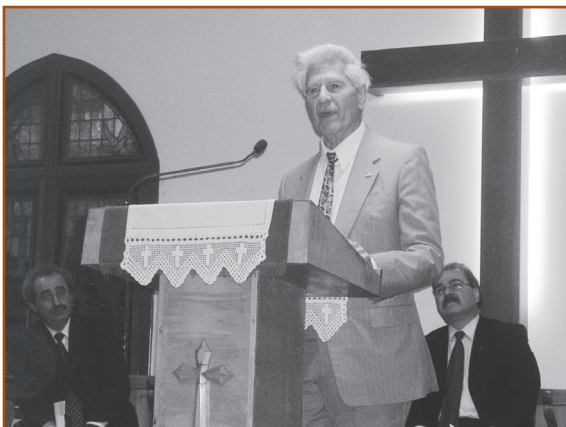
The present church building in Kokkinia was purchased in 1928. Rev. Krikor Demirjian served as pastor of the church from 1927 – 1985. Then Rev. Mher Khatchikian from 1987 – 1993, and Rev. Vicken Cholakian from 1994 to the present.

The purpose of the Armenian Evangelical Churches has been to serve the Armenian nationals in spiritual, educational and social matters with an active Sunday School, Ladies Auxiliary and youth programs.



Standing next to the monument of Rev. Krikor Demirjian, left to right: Dr. H. Steven Aharonian (AMAA President), Mr. Andy Torigian (AMAA Executive Director), Julie Aharonian, Dr. Nazareth Darakjian (AMAA Board Member), Dr. Ani Darakjian (Haigazian University board member) and Salpi Cholakian.

AMAA Executive Director Visits Cyprus



Last month, the AMAA Executive Director, Andy Torigian, visited Larnaca, Cyprus where the Haigazian University Board of Directors had their semi-annual meeting. On the following Sunday, Mr. Torigian visited Nicosia where the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Cyprus holds their worship services in a Greek Evangelical Church because the Armenian Evangelical Church was confiscated by the Turks when they took over the southern part of Cyprus and Nicosia. Mr. Torigian, in his talk to the parishioners, emphasized the importance of keeping the commemoration of the Armenian genocide always in the forefront. He stressed that the pressure will always be on Turkey until they acknowledge that the Ottoman Turks did indeed commit the Armenian genocide 92 years ago.

Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, speaking to the congregation during worship service of the Armenian Evangelical Fellowship of Cyprus. On the left is Mr. Herair Jebejian, worship leader, and on the right is Rev. Megerdich Karagoezian, President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East who gave the Armenian sermon.

Avedisian Armenian Evang'l School Celebrates the 15th Anniversary of Shushi Liberation



Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America, speaking to the students, teachers and parents of the Avedisian Armenian Evangelical School, Yerevan, Armenia.

On May 9, 2007 Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, visited the Avedisian Armenian Evangelical School where the children had a special program depicting the liberation of Shushi. Some of the children were dressed as soldiers, others as nurses, some as Russians and overall presented a remarkably beautiful depiction of how Shushi was liberated.

Mr. Torigian congratulated the principal of the school, Melania Keghamian, the teachers and the directors who had put this wonderful presentation together. He encouraged the children to continue their good work in the school. Mr. Torigian also congratulated the parents of the students for encouraging their children to perform at their best. It was a very enjoyable morning at the school.

AMAA Purchases Gyumri Property for Armenian Christian and Cultural Center



On left is Lucine Khatchaturian AMAA Office Manager in Gyumri, Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, Robert Mgoutchyan, Gyumri Notary, and Harout Nercessian AMAA Deputy Representative in Armenia.

In May the AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian went to Gyumri, Armenia to finalize the sale of a property which will be used as an Armenian Christian and Cultural Center. It will have a medical center named The Elaine Hamparson Medical Clinic in remembrance of her parents George S. and Florence Hamparson and her beloved brother, George C. Hamparson. This facility will be available to all the indigent of Gyumri at no charge. It will have Christian Education rooms for study as well as a basketball court named after the legendary coach Jerry Tarkanian. There will be a church for worship services as well as Administrative offices.

Heroic Pastor Krikor Agabaloglu Visits AMAA Headquarters

Reverend Krikor Agabaloglu visited the AMAA Headquarters on Friday, May 25, 2007. He was invited to the United States by the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church of San Francisco, CA and the Armenian Brotherhood Bible Church (ABBC) of Hackensack, NJ to preach the Gospel.

Reverend Agabaloglu serves as the pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church (Gedik Pasa) in Kumkapi, Istanbul. He came to ABBC to preach especially to an audience predominantly of Armenians from Istanbul.

Reverend Agabaloglu is a courageous pastor who preaches the Gospel eloquently both in Turkey and in other countries wherever he is invited and defends Armenian causes and interests fearlessly.



Left to right Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, Ms. Vilma Kuyumcu and Ms. Alin Eglence members of the Armenian Brotherhood Bible Church, and Reverend Krikor Agabaloglu, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Gedik Pasa, Istanbul, Turkey.

Hackensack Lion's Club Invites AMAA Executive Director

Andy Torigian, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) was the guest speaker at the Hackensack Lion's Club Luncheon on May 16, 2007. Mr. Torigian gave an overview of the AMAA's activities around the world emphasizing the work in Armenia. He mentioned AMAA's first involvement in Armenia was after the devastating earthquake of 1988. At that time, AMAA rallied donors and provided much-needed humanitarian aid. When Armenia received its independence in 1991, AMAA established a permanent presence there. Mr. Torigian explained the many programs active in Armenia, including Child Sponsorship, the Milk Fund and the Camp Programs. The Club decided to provide a contribution to the AMAA for their efforts in Armenia.

«ԵՍ ՈՒ ԻՄ ՏՈՒՆԱ»

«Ես ու իմ տունս Եհովան պիտի պաշտենք»: (Յեսու 24. 15)

Տիգրան Երմշաքեան

Մայրը ընտանիքին սիրման է, սակայն հայրը կը նկատուի տան տէրը: Ասոր համար է, որ տունը պապենական կը կոչենք: Արդ, երբ հայր մը ըսէ, «Ես ու իմ տունս», սա յատկանշական հաստատում մըն է եւ մեծ նշանակութիւն ունեցող վկայութիւն մը:

Յեսու այս վկայութիւնը ըրաւ, երբ հարիւր տասը տարեկան էր եւ հասած՝ իր կեանքի աւարտին: Ան Աստուծոյ ծրագիրին հետեւելով եւ քաջութեամբ առաջնորդած էր ժողովուրդը դէպի խոստացուած երկիրը, եւ հիմա կը հաւաքէր Իսրայէլի բոլոր տոհմերը եւ անոնց կը պատուիրէր պաշտել Տէրը հաւատարմութեամբ եւ նշարտութեամբ: Այս պատուիրին վրայ, ան նաեւ կ'աւելցնէր իր կտակը. «Ես ու իմ տունս Եհովան պիտի պաշտենք»:

Նկատի առնելով, որ այս պարագային Յեսու՝ տան հայրն էր, անոր վկայութիւնը կ'ըլլայ ամբողջ ընտանիքին վկայութիւնը:

Իր այս հրաժեշտի խօսքով, Յեսու հայրական յատուկ պատգամ մը կու տար.:

ա. Յեսու կը վկայէր իր Աստուծապաշտութեան մասին. «ԵՍ... Եհովան պիտի պաշտենք»: Յեսու նախ ինք կը վկայէր իր մասին: Անձնապէս ի՞նք աստուծաւախ էր: Ինք կը հաւատար ու կը սիրէր զԱստուծոյ: Ինք կը հետեւէր Աստուծոյ ծրագրին եւ կը վկայէր, թէ պիտի շարունակէր պաշտել զԱստուծոյ: Յեսու հասած էր իր կեանքի աւարտին: Իր պարտականութիւնը կատարած էր եւ իրեն նշանակուած ծրագիրը յաջող աւարտած: Արդեօք անհրաժեշտ էր անոր համար Աստուծոյ առաջնորդութիւնը: Այո, եւ այդ պատճառով ան կը վստահեցնէր, թէ ինք պիտի շարունակէր պաշտել զԱստուծոյ:

բ. Յեսու կ'ընդունէր Աստուծոյ իշխանութիւնը վկայելով, թէ իրեն համար Աստուծոյ գաւառն էր իր յաջողութիւնը միայն Աստուծոյ կամով ու առաջնորդութեամբ էր: Արդ, հիմա ժամանակն էր, որ թէ՛ ինք եւ թէ՛ ընտանիքը, մէկ անգամ ընդ միշտ մոռնալիմ գետին միւս կողմը՝ Եգիպտոսի մէջ պաշտուած աստուածները:

գ. Յեսու կը ներկայացնէր իր կեցածքը եւ կ'առաջարկէր, որ ժողովուրդն ալ հետեւէր իր օրինակին: «Ե թէ Տէրը պաշտել ձեզի հանելի չի թուիր, ձեզի ընտրեցէ՛ք այսօր, թէ զո՞վ պիտի պաշտէք» (24. 15): Ընտրութիւնը ժողովուրդին էր եւ ոչ պարտադիր: Սակայն Յեսու՝ որպէս տան, ընտանիքին եւ ժողովուրդին պատասխանատուն, կու տար նաեւ իր անձնական որոշումը: Ընտրութիւնը ձերն է. «Բայց ես ու իմ տունս Եհովան պիտի պաշտենք»:

Յեսու՝ որպէս տան հայրը, քաջութեամբ ներկայացուց իր վկայութիւնը, եւ ժողովուրդը հետեւեցաւ անոր օրինակին:

* * *

Անցեալ երկու ամիսներու ընթացքին, տօնեցինք մայրերու եւ հայրերու օրերը: Մէկ խօսքով, տօնեցինք Ընտանիքի Օրը: Սակայն, արդեօք տեղ տուի՞նք Աստուծապաշտութեան: Այս առիթով, կ'արժէ անդրադառնալ Յեսուի օրինակին: Անդրադառնալ ընտանիքի սրբութեան եւ կարեւորութեան, եւ որպէս ընտանիքի գլուխը, տէրը կամ ծառան, քաջութեամբ յայտարարել, թէ մենք եւ մեր տունը Եհովան պիտի պաշտենք: Միայն այն առնել է, որ մեր Տունները կը վերածուին ընտանեկան ջերմ օճախներու եւ սրբութիւնը կը տիրէ մեր կեանքներուն:

Տէրը օրհնէ մեր բոլոր ընտանիքները: ☐

ՀԱՅՐԵՆԻ ԿՏՈՒՐ

Հօրըս խրճիթին անշուք կըտուրէն
Վառուառ խունկի պէս՝ ծուխ կը բարձրանայ.
Մօրըս օճախին սինն է հըրեղէն՝
Որ աղօթքի պէս Երկինք կ'ամբառնայ:

Մեր բակին մէջտեղ կաղնին խորամատ՝
Պատկերն է հօրըս հաւատքին հըզօր.
Հովանին՝ քաղցըր, բունը՝ միշտ հաստատ,
Նոյնիսկ երբ կ'ոռնայ քամին ահաւոր:

Հացնարի ճամբով դարձայ ես պանդուխտ,
Տեսայ շէն տըներ, տեսայ պերճ դղեակ,
Ոսկեհունճք արտեր, անտառներ գմբուխտ,
Եւ գիրք ու գրգի՛ր, գինի ու քրտակ:

Ու հիմա տէր եմ ես կալուածներու.
Սիրտըս ի՛նչ ուզէ՝ ձեռքըս զայն կու տայ.
Բայց խորո՛ւնկ ու խո՛ւլ կարօտ մ'ահարկու
Կը մտրակէ գիւս... ու հոգիս կու լա՛յ:

Տապալէն թըրած աղանձին պէս՝
Ի զո՛ւր կ'որոնեմ ես վայր մը մաքուր.
Պապերուս հիւղը դըրախտ էր կարծես
Իմ թախծոտ հոգւոյն, իմ սրտիս թափուր:

Կ'ուզեմ ետ դառնալ հայրենի տընակ,
Պարզ եւ արեշատ իմ բոյնըս վըսե՛մ,
Ուր Գիրքն ու Աղօթք մօրըս թելին տակ՝
Կ'ընէին կեանքը մեղրանո՛ւշ եղեմ...
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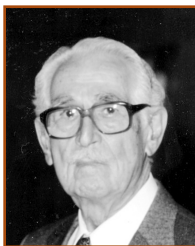
Clarence Allen Cretan

Clarence Allen Cretan was born on March 19, 1919 in Oakland, CA to Diran Cretan (Giridlian) and Nevart Garabedian, both Armenian immigrants from Turkey. He attended Oakland High and College of the Pacific, before enlisting in the US Army in 1942. He served in the Signal Corps under Gen. Douglas MacArthur, in both World War II and the Korean War, retiring as a Captain in 1953. Returning to California, he spent 25 years as the owner of his own watchmaking and jewelry business, and was one of the original merchants at the Hillsdale Shopping Center in San Mateo, where he owned Cretan Jewelers and served on the Center's Board of Directors. He was an active member in many capacities at the First Congregational Church of San Mateo and served the San Mateo community as both a member of the San Mateo Board of Education and the City Personnel Board. Throughout his entire adult life, he was a member of the Armenian fraternal service organization, the Knights of Vartan, and served as the State Commander in the mid-1950s. He earned his law degree later in life, and after he retired he continued to serve his community as a volunteer for the San Mateo County Legal Aid Society, which was one of the most rewarding endeavors of his adult life. Clarence passed away peacefully on April 25, 2007. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Gladys, two sons, Clifford and Larry, their spouses Pat and Mary Clare, and one of the greatest joys of his life, his grandchildren: Jenny and her husband Darren, Cindy, Jeff, Aram and Joel, and his great-granddaughter, Ainsley. Memorial Service was held on Monday, April 30, at the First Cong'l Church of San Mateo. Donations in lieu of flowers were made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America and to the First Congregational Church of San Mateo. □

Luther Eskijian

Luther Eskijian was born on Nov. 1, 1913, in the village of Ekiz-Oluk in Syria where his father, Rev. Hovhannes Eskijian ministered to villages in the Kessab area. Due to the upheaval of world War I and the tragedies affecting the Armenian people, the family moved to Aleppo, Syria, and after the death of his father the family eventually immigrated to the United States, through Ellis Island, to settle in Pasadena, California.

Luther established himself as an architect before World War II. During WWII, he fol-



lowed General Patton's army, as part of General Eisenhower's Army Corps of Engineers, and designed hospitals as cities were liberated, ending in Berlin. He returned to Pasadena after the war and started life with his wife Anne and first child, Carol. Luther was continually engaged in church, community and philanthropic activities. A short list, includes the design, supervision and construction of over a dozen churches, including Armenian, American, African-American churches, as well as the Pasadena Christian Day School, all without charge. He served on the Board of Directors of the Armenian Missionary Association of America and as the Western Chairman of all chapters for many years, and the Board of Directors of Haigazian College in Beirut, Lebanon. He was the owner of several patents related to his engineering business.

For many years, Luther was advisor to the Ararat Home of Los Angeles in the development of their major community complex, and particularly the design and construction of the Sheen Memorial Chapel in ancient Armenian design. In that complex he founded the Ararat-Eskijian Museum in 1993 dedicated to the preservation and promotion of Armenian culture and history, and which includes a Genocide Library.

The Museum is the only Armenian museum on the West Coast of the United States. The statue outside the Museum designed by Mr. Eskijian called "Mother Armenia Arising Out of the Ashes," is dedicated to both those who survived and perished in the Armenian Genocide of 1915, and is replicated at the Genocide memorial in Yerevan, Armenia. Luther's life has been one of faith in Jesus Christ, service, compassion, artistry, business, and very importantly, family. He is survived by his beloved wife Anne of 63 years, daughter Carol Kazanjian, son-in-law, Howard Kazanjian, son Martin Eskijian, daughter-in-law, Effie Eskijian, daughter Nancy Eskijian, and three grandchildren, Peter, Noah and Andrew Kazanjian, and brother John Bennett of Altadena, CA. □

Armen Marian Kasabach

Armen Marian Kasabach passed away peacefully at her home in Southfield, Michigan April 16, 2007. A beautiful memorial service and reception was held April 27th at the Detroit Armenian Congregational Church in Southfield, MI. Mrs. Kasabach, wife of former Board member and Detroit Chapter head, the late Dr. Harry Y. Kasabach, was



a Lifetime Member and longtime supporter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). As a couple, they hosted many Armenian dignitaries in their home. She chaired the Detroit Chapter after Dr. Kasabach's passing, as well as the AMAA's Fiftieth Anniversary Banquet in his memory, in 1971.

Armen was also very active in other aspects of the Armenian community, both locally and nationally. She was an integral leader and active participant in the Detroit Armenian Congregational Church as a Sunday School teacher, choir member, interim choir director, member of Young Women's Fellowship, and Board of Deacons. She chaired fundraising for for the Institute for Armenian Blind and Deaf in the early '70s. Being three times its President, she remained active in the Detroit Armenian Women's Club as a longtime advisor and visionary, where she chaired the Scholarship and Donations Committee. She was also on the membership committee of the local chapter of the Armenian Assembly in recent years. Armen was generous with her time and finances, supporting many other causes.

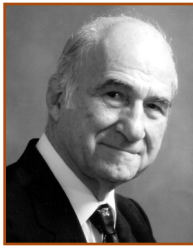
Born in 1917 to Dr. Levon & Elmon (Besh) Getoor, she attended the University of Michigan where she graduated in 1939 with a B.A. in Music. Armen had a lifelong love and enjoyment of opera and classical music. She was the consummate homemaker, taking much deserved pride in her culinary skills. She loved hosting parties and functions for neighbors and friends, and enjoyed traveling for both historic and cultural objectives, to share time with her family, and to immerse herself in nature's beauty. She often took on activities that many of her contemporaries thought unusual, one being a two week rafting and camping trip on the Colorado River when she was 70 years old.

After her husband's untimely passing, Armen returned to school, attending Wayne State University for studies in health and science. She became a member of the American Nutrition Consultant Assoc., doing public speaking and counseling on that subject about which she was passionate.

Sharing time with her family gave Armen much joy, and she shared with them her love of life, music, nature and travel. Her daughters, Marcia Kasabach & Joan K. Swain, and grandsons, Dela & Austin Longfish were with her in her final days, and shared many sweet memories before her spirit passed on to be with her beloved Harry and dear family and friends who had predeceased her. She will be missed by many for years to come by those who knew and admired her talents, strengths and spirit. □

Edward M. Kavjian, M.D.

Dr. Edward Mihran Kavjian was born on Nov. 14, 1914 in Kaiseri, Turkey. He was the third child of Mihran Kavjian, a merchant, and Annig (nee Mostichian), a schoolteacher. His siblings were Puzant and Eunice.



The family escaped massacre by Turks with the help of their Greek uncle, Christo Jeannides. They came to the United States through Ellis Island when Ed was six years old. After a brief stay with Mostichian relatives in New York, the family settled in West Philadelphia.

Ed graduated from West Philadelphia High School and completed pre-medical studies at Temple University. While in college, he was active in sports, winning intramural championships in both wrestling and boxing. In 1939, Ed received his medical degree from Hahnemann Medical College, where he was president of his senior class and president of his fraternity, Pi Upsilon Rho.

During World War II, Ed enlisted in the Army. However, due to his hearing loss and his use of a hearing aid, he was assigned to the Reserves.

After the war, Ed started a general practice, opening an office in Upper Darby, PA. He later specialized in Urology and was Board certified in 1956.

Ed married Grace Kabakjian in 1951, and they were blessed with five children: Edward Jr., Carol, Joyce, David, and Judy. Ed and Grace bought their first home in Drexel Hill and later moved to Haverford, where they resided for 42 years before relocating to Dunwoody Village, a retirement community, in 1999. Ed was on the staff of Woman's Medical Hospital for many years where he taught urology to medical students and resident physicians. He was also on staff at Delaware County Hospital and Haverford State Hospital. Recognizing a need for local medical facilities, he and fourteen colleagues established and built Haverford Community Hospital in 1957. After years of loyalty and lovingly serving his patients, Ed retired from active practice in 1986. In addition to his professional and family responsibilities, Ed was always active in the community, both locally and nationally. His commitment to the Armenian Martyrs' Cong'l Church of Havertown entailed service as a Sunday School teacher, many terms on the Boards of Deacons and Trustees, as well as the Endowment Committee, often as chairperson. Nationally and internationally, Ed dedicated his time to Armenian philanthropic organizations. He served as President of the Armenian Missionary Association of America and several terms as Commander of the Knights of Vartan. Ed also served on the USA

Board of Trustees of Haigazian University in Beirut, Lebanon.

In his leisure time, Ed enjoyed golf, fishing, gardening, boating and playing chess and card games with his grandchildren. He lived everyday with zest, a warm smile and a positive attitude.

Ed passed away peacefully on May 6, 2007, surrounded by family. He will be sorely missed. He is survived by his beloved wife Grace of 56 years, their five children and spouses: Ed and Mary Jo Kavjian of Annandale, VA, Ed and Carol Kaiserian of Bryn Mawr, PA, David and Maureen Kavjian of Annandale, VA, Pete and Joyce Stephenson of West Chester, PA, Bill and Judy Owens of McLean, VA, and 15 grandchildren. □

John A. Nahigian

John Nahigian of Waltham and New Seabury, passed away on May 24, 2007 after a brief illness. He was 78. John was the beloved husband of Alice (Paskerian), devoted father of Alan, Rick and his wife Tina and Douglas, loving grandfather of Jason and Elizabeth, brother of Roxie Gostanian and her husband Herbert and Elizabeth Radziszewski., brother-in-law of Dr. Gregory Paskerian and his wife Sue. John was also survived by one niece, Lisa Paskerian and two nephews, Scott Paskerian and William Gostanian. A memorial service was held at the First Armenian Church of Belmont, MA on Tuesday, June 5, 2007. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts were sent to the Armenian Missionary Association of America to benefit needy children and to the church. □

Yevnig Torunian

"...There is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the Righteous Judge, shall give me at that day." 2 Tim. 4:8.

My sister, Yevnig Torunian, graced this world and went home to be with the Lord on June 4, 2007. She spread her love and warmth to all she touched and left us with a keener sense of our humanity, and this shall remain with us always.

Yevnig was born in Beirut, Lebanon, on March 15, 1928, to Manoog and Ovsanna Iskikian. She received her elementary education at the School of Life, and graduated with honors from the Armenian Evangelical Central High School in Ashrafieh, Beirut, in 1946. Thereafter, she continued her education at the British-Syrian Training College in Beirut, and received her diploma in Pedagogy and Teacher's Training, in 1947.

After serving as head of the kindergarten at the Central High School for four years, in 1951 she entered the Nursing School of the

American University of Beirut, and received her nursing diploma in 1954, with honors.

In 1957 Yevnig immigrated to the United States to continue her nursing profession at Wesley Memorial Hospital in Chicago. Early 1959, she decided to move to San Francisco, to be closer to family and friends and continued her nursing at the Presbyterian Hospital, presently known as California Pacific Medical Center. She retired in 1986, following a major automobile accident.

Soon after her move to San Francisco, Yevnig began to attend the Calvary Armenian Congregational Church (CACC). There she met her late husband, Levon Torunian, where they were married on May 23, 1959. They were blessed with two children, Daniel and Joan.

Yevnig was a dedicated and faithful servant of the Lord. She had accepted the Lord as her personal Savior, when she was a teenager. With her beautiful voice, she sang in the church choir for many years. For a number of years, Yevnig served as Treasurer and as President of the CACC Ladies Circle. She was also the Clerk to the Church Council for a time.

Yevnig was a very generous person, and was always ready and willing to help wherever the need was. She was a dedicated and caring wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and a loving friend.

From 2001 to 2005, Yevnig took a tremendous responsibility to care for her ailing husband, Levon, who, after long and extensive medical treatments and hospitalization, went home to be with the Lord on July 28, 2005.

Three months after her husband's passing away, Yevnig began to have serious medical problems herself. She endured all with a strong faith in God and with great patience.

Yevnig is survived by her son Dan and daughter Joan; with their respective spouses, Lynne and Jamie; her two lovely grandchildren, Myles and Lucy Bryant; her brother, Joseph Iskikian and his family; her sister, Wanda Fustukjian; her cousin, Martha Agulian; many nieces and nephews; numerous relatives and close friends.

Blessed is the memory of my beloved sister, Yevnig Torunian.

Joseph M. Iskikian

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News

- * **Jerry Hekimian**
Chevy Chase, MD
- Aram Kabakjian**
Media, PA
- Loulou Kaldjian**
Van Nuys, CA
- * **Ara Nuyujukian**
Fullerton, CA

* Memorials designated for AMAA

Urgent Appeal: Bridge to Camp Hankavan

April showers bring May flowers. However showers in Armenia this year unfortunately brought much damage to our homeland. Heavy rain that fell in May of 2007 overflowed rivers, uprooted trees, caused rock slides, damaged roads and bridges.

This nature's fury unfortunately caused great damage to the AMAA Hankavan Sheen Shoghig Camp. The bridge over the brook leading to the entrance of the camp was completely destroyed. This was the only access to the camp.

The Armenia Summer Camp Committee, all year long, worked hard to raise necessary funds to start the summer 2007 camp season in Armenia. They were anticipating 2000 children to attend camp Hankavan. No one, including the children, predicted this catastrophe. The construction of a new bridge is now a must and necessary to have access to the camp. The cost of building a new bridge is estimated to be \$40,000.

On behalf of the children in Armenia, we appeal to AMAA members, friends, concerned individuals, Armenian Evangelical Churches worldwide, and affiliate organizations to take up this new challenge and make a special offering in order not to deprive or disappoint our children in Armenia.

The Summer Camp program in Armenia is so much appreciated that children who spend a week at camp refuse to return home. Unless we help, they will miss this God-given opportunity to attend camp.

Please help us save the camp season for them. Together let us build this bridge.

Gifts earmarked for this purpose can be mailed using the form attached, or through your credit cards calling 201.265.2607.



Workers and volunteers removing the collapsed bridge

Yes, I would like to respond to the AMAA's urgent appeal to help rebuild the Hankavan Camp Bridge and the associated expenses. Enclosed is my contribution of \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ E-mail: _____

(Please make your tax-deductible checks payable to AMAA Hankavan Bridge and mail your gifts to 31 W. Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652)

To make a contribution with a credit/debit card or electronic debit to checking account, please call AMAA at 201.265.2607



Children at camp summer of 2006



Armenian Missionary Association of America
31 West Century Road
Paramus, NJ 07652

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